REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are amended and claims 6-20 are added. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are amended for clarity. Claim 1 is further amended to provide sufficient antecedent for a claim term. Support for claims 6-20 are found throughout the specification and the drawing figures.

Figs. 1 and 2 are revised to have the correct designation. Designation of Related Art is used, which is the term used to describe Figs. 1 and 2 in the specification.

For the following reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

I. DRAWINGS

Figs. 1 and 2 are objected to for failing to show any designation. Figs. 1 and 2 are corrected to show the designation "Related Art". Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. CLAIM REJECTIONS

A. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The claim is rejected as lacking sufficient antecedent basis for a claim term. Claim 1 is amended to provide sufficient antecedent basis. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

B. 35 U.S.C. § 102

On page 3, item 5 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,267,603 to Yamamoto et al. (hereinafter "Yamamoto"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Yamamoto fails to disclose each and every feature of independent claim 1. Instead, Yamamoto discloses a socket for burn-in testing of an integrated circuit package having electrical leads. The socket consists of an annular top cover 21 having an opening 23, and a socket body 22 having an inner housing 4 and an outer housing 3 (see, for example, Fig. 4 of Yamamoto). Within the inner housing 4 are formed a plurality of terminal receiving cavities 7 whose end is formed by a contact section 13. Within each terminal receiving cavity 7 is a tail section 15 of the terminal 12. The tail section 15 contacts connect leads or balls 25 of the IC packages 24 (see, for example, Fig. 15, col. 4, lines 1-9, lines 38-60 of Yamamoto).

As shown in Yamamoto, the opening 23 allows the IC packages 24 to pass so that automatic loading and retrieving of the IC packages occur (see, for example, col. 5, lines 7-13 of Yamamoto). However, the opening 27 is not for use with a vacuum.

On the other hand, the contact section 13 is merely an opening for the cavity 7 that receives the terminals 12. The cavity 7 is also not for use with a vacuum. As clearly shown in Fig. 15, a gap exists between the contact piece 13c at the end of the terminal 12 and the contact section 13 at the end of the cavity 7. Such gap does not allow for vacuum to be held. Moreover,

there is absolutely no disclosure in Yamamoto that the cavity 7 and the opening 23 are vacuum tubes or a pass through hole that is able to hold a vacuum.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that Yamamoto fails to disclose or suggest a carrier module body having a pass through hole, and a vacuum tube in a supplementary housing, where a semiconductor device is held with a vacuum formed through the pass through hole in the carrier module body and the vacuum tube, as called for in claim 1. Consequently, claim 1 is patentable over the applied reference. Claim 5, which depends from claim 1, is likewise patentable over the applied reference for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features it recites. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

C. 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 4, item 7 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,491,419 to Kerdiya et al. (hereinafter "Kerdiya"), in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0054676 to Sano et al. (hereinafter "Sano 676"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kerdiya discloses a relay test assembly for testing electro-mechanical relays. The assembly of Kerdiya has a top body portion 25 having a plurality of openings 24 where leads 23 of an electro-mechanical relay 22 are inserted (see, for example, Fig. 2 of Kerdiya). Kerdiya also discloses an opening in the position where a contact 42 rides in a fixed tube (see, for example, Figs. 2 and 3, col. 6, lines 8-11 of Kerdiya). Kerdiya discloses a body portion 27 and a cylindrical conductor 37 (see, for example, Fig. 3 of Kerdiya). Further, conductors 29 are also shown (see,

for example, Fig. 3 of Kerdiya). The conductors 29 and 37 are not vacuum tubes. There is absolutely no disclosure in Kerdiya of a vacuum tube, nor the ability to create a vacuum. As discussed above, reference number 27 is assigned to a cylindrical inner body portion 27 (col. 4, lines 49-55).

Sano also fails to disclose vacuum tubes or tubes able to hold a vacuum. Sano merely discloses sockets to test electric parts. Consequently, Sano fails to overcome the deficiencies in Kerdiya.

Kerdiya and Sano both fail to disclose or suggest each and ever feature of claim 1. Specifically, they fail to disclose or suggest a carrier module body have a pass through hole, and a vacuum tube in the supplementary housing, where a semiconductor device is held with a vacuum formed through the pass through hole in the carrier module body and the vacuum tube, as called for in claim 1. Consequently, claim 1 is patentable over the applied references and their combination. Claims 3-5, which depend from claim 1, are likewise patentable over the applied references and/or their combination for at least the reasons discussed above, and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 5, item 8 of the Office Action, claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yamamoto in view of JP 2003-86319 (hereinafter "Sano 319"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Sano 319, which is the priority document of Sano 676 (U.S. 2002/0054676) does not overcome the deficiencies in Yamamoto. Consequently, claim 4 is patentable over Yamamoto in

view of Sano 319 for at least the reasons discussed above for claim 1, and for the additional features it recites. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

On page 6, item 9 of the Office Action, claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yamamoto/Kerdiya in view of Sano 676 as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,123,850 to Elder et al. (hereinafter "Elder"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed above, Yamamoto or the combination of Kerdiya in view of Sano 676 fails to anticipate or suggest the features of claim 1, from which claim 2 depends. As Elder fails to overcome the deficiencies discussed above for Yamamoto or the combination of Kerdiya in view of Sano 676, claim 2 is patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed above and for the additional features it recites. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. NEW CLAIMS

Claims 6-20 are patentable over the applied references for reasons similar to those discussed above. Due consideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

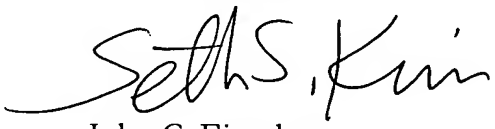
IV. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the

application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, **Seth S. Kim**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
FLESHNER & KIM, LLP



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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 and 2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets